



# HOLYOKE COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

## Directors News

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Friendly reminder—End-of-term (EOT) exams are here! The week of December 9-13 will be review week and the following week, December 16-22, students will be taking their EOT exams. Parents please remember that final exams are worth up to 50% of a student's final grade. Please look out for the EOT exam schedule coming mid- December.

December 16th—22th will be half-days for students with dismissal at 12:00pm.

We try to have outdoor recess as long as weather safely permits. If your child is in need of a coat, please contact the school's main office.

Time to bundle up and stay warm!

Dr. Pope



### Mission Statement

“The mission of HCCS is to promote the joy of learning and to prepare children for success as students, workers and citizens by providing them with a high quality public education.”



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## Upcoming Events

- Friday, December 10, 2021– Free Family Movie Night (6:00-8:00pm)
- Monday, December 13, 2021– Special Education Parent Advisory Council Meeting (5:00pm)
- Tuesday, December 14, 2021– Parent Connection Meeting (5:30pm)
- Tuesday, December 14, 2021– English Learners Parent Advisory Council Meeting (5:00pm)
- Thursday, December 16-22– EOT Exams Half-Day, Dismissal @12:00pm
- School Closed– Winter Recess– December 23, 2021-January 2, 2022 (Classes will resume on January 3, 2022).

### Grade K

**English:** Students will continue to learn about their five senses. They will be looking at poems that incorporate the five senses, and learn letters W, X, Y, Z. They will be introduced to the family words ending in OP and sight words As, I, Hear.

**Math:** Students will be reviewing all concepts covered from August through November. They will review counting numbers up to 10 forward and backward, missing numbers. Also, reviewing more, less, and enough and place order of objects (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th) Review 2D/3D shapes.

**Science:** Students will be discussing how we use our five senses.

**Social Studies:** Students will be discussing and finishing chapter 2 with how we can take care of our neighborhood. As well as beginning chapter 3: What does it mean to be an American?

**Spanish:** Students will learn the letters R, S, T, U and V they will work on the unit about the Family. They will also review colors, numbers and shapes.



### Grade 1

**English:** Students will practice their reading comprehension using the story “A Trip to the Park” and the poem *Swinging*. They will practice writing a true story or narrative event. We will tell a story about a time we were excited. After telling their stories they will use the beginning, middle, and end to make it a full story. Students will be working on words with two letters that make one sound at the end of words. For example, ck, ng, and nk. They will work on the sound it says, reading words with this sound, and spelling word with these at the end.

**Math:** Students will continue to work on their addition skills this time using numbers up to 20. They will also practice subtracting numbers up to 20. This will involve understanding tens and ones which they have been working on for a long time. Lastly they will focus on word problems.

**Science:** Students will learn what it means for the earth to rotate. This helps them to understand some of the things they have been learning like how the moon goes through phases and how rotating is the reason we see different parts of the moon. They will learn why the earth rotates and why it is important.

**Social Studies:** Students will review what we have learned in chapters one and two so far. They will talk about ways we have been good citizens and what we know makes us a good citizen. They will review what they have learned about maps and globes. Students will think more about where they live and how they can use a globe and map to find that place in the world.

**Spanish:** Students will work on the unit about the toys. Also, they will learn the syllables with Pl and Pr. They

## Grade 2

**English:** Students will write a paragraph on a specific topic. They will learn the long e and long u sound and all the ways to spell it. Reviewing all concepts taught this term in preparation for End of Term exams.

**Math:** Students will be reviewing all concepts taught this term in preparation for End of Term exams.

**Science** Students will be reviewing all concepts taught this term in preparation for End of Term exams.

**Social Studies:** Students will be reviewing all concepts taught this term in preparation of End of Term exams.

**Spanish:** Los sentimientos de Andres. Mas sobre partes del cuerpo y sobre la cara de Andres. Introduccion de Cuento El sapo y la princesa.

## Grade 3

**English:** For Anthology students will work on The fable “The Tortoise and the Hare”. Grammar: They will work on the future simple tense and for Writing they will work on Informational paragraphs.

**Math:** Order of Operations: Evaluate expressions by applying the order of operations. Distributive property or multiplication over addition.

**Science:** Students will work on the Physical Science book: Forces and Motion– direction, distance, motion, and speed. Also, revision for the EOT exams.

**Social Studies:** Students will be reviewing all topics covered this year for EOT exams.

**Spanish:** Antologia Pandir El castro. Bella y la bestia Pagina 9 Gramatica Los adjetivos . Pedro y el lobo

## Grade 4

**English:** Students will work on nonfiction, informational Test “Yoruba; A River That Never Rests”.

**Math:** Students are working on chapter 5 S2.2– Interpreting Remainders– Interpret the remainder of a word problem requiring division. Division by multiples of 10 and Division by a two-digit divisor with and without remainder.

**Science:** Students will work on the Physical Science book: Heat, light, and sound– amplitude, frequency, pitch, sound, vibration, and volume. Also, revision for the EOT exams.

**Social Studies:** Students are learning how citizens help each other and the world.

**Spanish:** Students will continue to work on Unit 3 reading and studying vocabulary key words of the following topics: numbers 1-1000, shapes, and clock-time, as well to review Unit 1 and 2. They will also focus on Spanish grammar to write sentences using adjectives, articles, nouns and personal pronouns.

## Grade 5

**English:** Students working on context clues. For grammar the students will work on progressive tense and the perfect tense. Text: The Negro National League/ Casey at the Bat. They will also work on cause and effect for reading comprehension and opinion paragraph writing.

**Math:** Students will finish up working on long division and then start exploring fractions

**Science:** Students will finish up Chapter 4 on space. They will learn about stars, constellations, galaxies, the Apollo Missions, and the different tools people use to explore Space from here on Earth. The week of December 6-10 students will begin revision for the EOT exam. They will take the exam during the week of December 20-24.

**Social Studies:** Students are working on the origins of the 13 colonies of the United States.

**Spanish:** Students will continue to work on Unit 3 reading and studying vocabulary key words of: body parts, favorite colors and cloth. As well to review Unit 1 and 2 and to develop understanding of : Spanish, grammar, personal pronouns, verbs, adjectives, nouns, articles and writing sentences in Spanish.



## Grade 6

**English:** Students will be focusing on developing their writing skills. They will be working on narrative writing, and texts that gets their creative juices flowing.

**Math:** Students will work on dividing a decimal by another decimal. They will learn what a percentage is and how to find the percentage of a number. Also, revision for End of Term Exams.

**Science:** Students will be finishing Chapter 7 on the Solar System. They will learn about the big band theory, galaxies, light years, magnitude, and stars. The week of December 6-10 revision begins for the EOT exam. They will take the exam the week of December 20-24.

**Social Studies:** Students are working on history and cultures of North Africa.

**Spanish:** En el mes de diciembre estaremos aprendiendo sobre los principales miembros de la familia.



## Grade 7

**English:** Reading Comprehension: “The Girl Who Hunted Rabbits”/”Beyond the Bayou”.

**Math:** Students will work on inequalities and ratios.

**Science:** Students are working on physical Earth, earthquakes, and volcanoes.

**Social Studies:** Students will be learning how Australia and New Zealand have made many advances in democratic government and have close ties to the U.S. They will continue to look at the region of the world by learning about how the people of Australia and New Zealand are working to blend diverse populations successfully. This region gives us a good look at invasive species– which are animals, plants and infectious organisms that take over the natural environment of other species.

**Spanish:** Repaso Unidad 1 (Sustantivos, Articulos,

## Grade 8

**English:** In preparation for EOT exams, this month students will be reviewing the elements of a short story: plot, setting, characterization, conflict, symbolism, irony, author’s style, point of view, suspense, theme, tone, and mood. In grammar they will be reviewing units 1-5: nouns, adjectives, verbs (tense/ mood/ voice), adverbs, prepositions, and phrases. In writing they will be reviewing all types of paragraphs: narrative, argument, and informational.

**Math:** Students are working on unit rates, comparing proportional relationships. Revision week: chapters 1-4

**Science:** Students are learning about cells and genetics. Also, single celled and multi called organisms.

**Social Studies:** Students will be learning about how both state and federal government provide services to people. They will learn how state legislatures make laws that affect many aspects of our lives, such as the quality of schools, roads, and parks. Also, learning that the state court decides many issues affecting people’s lives.

**Spanish:** Repaso Unidad 1 Capitulo 1 y 2 (Sustantivos, Articulos, Adjectivos). Repaso Unidad 2 Capitulo 2 y 4 (Comparacion y preposiciones)

## Gym

**K-5:** Will be working on dribbling and striking with their hands, with fun activities such as battleship and parachutes.

**6-8:** Students will be working on striking with a paddle as well as passing and moving to open spaces, in games such as handball and basketball. They will also play some fun games like scooter board, handball, and hot spot pop shot.

## Computers

**K-1:** Students will learn to identify and use the special symbols on a keyboard

**2nd:** Students will learn what an email is and how to use it.

**3-4:** Students will exercise their typing skills for speed and accuracy.

**6th:** Students will learn how to properly use and manage emails.

## Reminder!

If you are dismissing your child early from school, please call before 11am.

Thank you.

